

Taking the GED Test

The GED (General Educational Development) Test offers adults who have left school an opportunity to earn a high school credential. GED test-takers must demonstrate major skills in subtests covering five subject areas:

- Language Arts: Writing
- Social Studies
- Science
- Language Arts: Reading
- Mathematics

You are eligible to take the GED Test if you are at least 17 years old, have lived in Indiana for 30 days immediately preceding the testing, and have **not** earned a high school diploma from a U.S. high school. Seventeen-year-olds wishing to take the GED Test must provide documentation of a completed exit interview that shows their withdrawal from high school, as well as passing GED practice test scores.

In order to prepare for the GED Test, you may wish to enroll in an adult basic education program, which provides free, individualized instruction year-round for adults who have not earned a high school diploma. For information, check with your local high school or call the Indiana Department of Education at 317-232-0522. You may also find adult education program locations on the internet at <http://doe.state.in.us/adulted/programlocations.html>.

You may wish to prepare on your own. Many self-study books with titles like How to Prepare for the High School Equivalency Exam are available in bookstores and libraries. These publications may provide explanations of the correct answers to sample test questions. For information on “GED on TV,” a learn-at-home project sponsored by PBS, call toll-free 1-877-GEDONTV (1-877-433-6688).

In Indiana, it will cost up to \$60 to take the GED Test, depending on the testing site. The cost covers all five subtests. An individual subtest can also be taken separately for \$10-\$12. You *must* determine the testing schedule of a site close to you, register in person, and pay ahead of time. You should bring three forms of identification when you register, including one picture identification. (*Bring the same three forms of identification to the testing session*).

For a list of the state’s 71 testing sites, all of which are accessible to individuals with disabilities, call 317-232-0522 or visit the Indiana Department of Education Web site at <http://doe.state.in.us/adulted/pdf/gedtestingsites.pdf>.

If you require accommodations on the GED Test, specific procedures must be followed in making a request. An accommodations form must be completed and sent to the testing site with documentation of a disability and the need for the accommodation. The chief examiner of the testing site will sign the form and send it to the GED state administrator. It usually takes two to three weeks to receive an answer to your request, but can take up to six weeks. If approved, you can then be scheduled to take the test with the accommodations.

GED tests are available on audiocassette, in Braille, and in large print versions. Other available accommodations include a private room, a scribe, a calculator for the entire math test, a talking calculator, extended time, and supervised breaks. GED test-takers may also request the test in Spanish or French.

If you have additional questions about the GED Test, call Nancy Waite, GED administrator, at 317-232-0523.